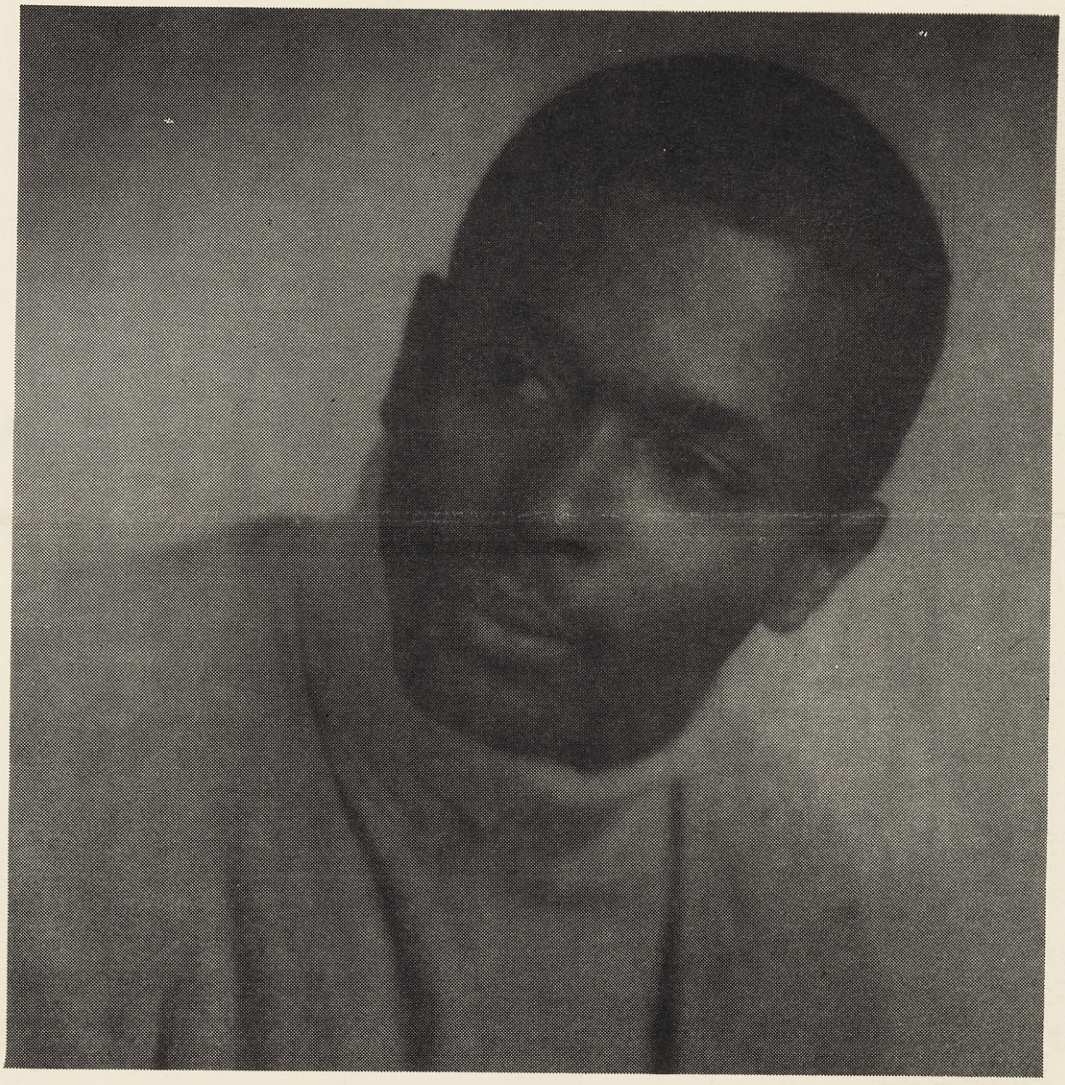
In Loving Memory of:

Elder Eric Ricardo Lyons, Sr.

Born: January 14, 1947 — St. Louis, Missouri
Departed: December 10, 1987 — San Leandro, California

"I will bless the Lord at all times:
His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Psalms 34:1"



OFFICIATING
Bishop W. W. Hamilton
Jurisdictional Bishop

INTERMENT
Rolling Hills Cemetery
Richmond, California
Elder Jerry W. Macklin — M.C.

In Loving Memory of:

Elder Eric Ricardo Lyons, Sr.

Born: January 14, 1947 — St. Louis, Missouri
Departed: December 10, 1987 — San Leandro, California

FOUNDER AND PASTOR OF THE:

REFRESHING FOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

2645 — 21st Avenue
Oakland, California 94606
January 1980

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1987 — 7:00 P.M.

FINAL SERVICES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1987 — 11:00 A.M.

ALL SERVICES ARE HELD AT THE
EPHESIAN CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
1709 Alcatraz Avenue
Berkeley, California
Bishop E. E. Cleveland — Host Pastor

OFFICIATING
Bishop W. W. Hamilton
Jurisdictional Bishop — Northwest

INTERMENT
Rolling Hills Cemetery
Richmond, California

Elder Jerry W. Macklin — M.C.
1st Ass't Administrator Northwest

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Wednesday, December 16, 1987 — 7:00 P.M.

Elder Curlee Williams — M.C.

PROCESSIONAL .....

SELECTION ..... Organ Selection ..... Brother Steve Roberts

SCRIPTURES: Old Testament ..... Elder Taft Gist
New Testament ..... Pastor Tony Cooper

INVOCATION ..... Elder Johnny Cox

SELECTIONS ..... A & B ..... Mass Choirs

EXPRESSIONS ..... 3 Minutes Each ..... Refreshing Fountain

EXPRESSIONS ..... Pentecostal Fellowship

SOLO ..... Missionary Audrey Miles

EXPRESSIONS ..... 2 Minutes Each .....

SELECTION ..... Mass Choirs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, CONDOLENCES ..... Missionary Denise Lyons

RESOLUTION ..... Refreshing Fountain Church

SELECTION ..... Pentecostal Fellowship

EXHORTATION ..... Supt. Gregory R. Martin

PARTING VIEW ..... Saints Christian Funeral Chapel

RECESSIONAL ..... Assisted by State Ushers

DISMISSAL .....

ORDER OF SERVICES

Thursday, December 17, 1987 — 11:00 A.M.

ORGAN PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL
MASTER OF CEREMONY ..... Elder Jerry W. Macklin
SELECTION ..... Choir
Old Testament Reading ..... Elder C. Howard
New Testament Reading ..... Elder L. Rollins
INVOCATION ..... Supt. J. Dickens
SELECTION ..... Choir
EXPRESSIONS FROM FRIENDS
Sister Perele Rollins
Madam Pearlene Ford
Minister Deree Sneed
Pastor Ernstine Cleveland Reems — *"A Longtime Caring Friend"*
SOLO ..... Rev. Walter Hawkins
REFLECTIONS FROM CALIFORNIA NORTHWEST JURISDICTION
Local Church ..... Mother Artie Anderson
District ..... Supt. G. Martin
State Music Dept. ..... Madam Nettie Young
Juris. Womens Dept ..... Mother Martha Willis
Dr. Mattie McGlothen
Pastor of CA NW ..... Elder L. Keeton
SELECTION ..... Refreshing Fountain Choir
THE FAMILY TRIBUTE ..... Sister Ruth Lyons
EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION "SAINTS CHRISTIAN" TRIBUTE ..... Sister Opal J. King
EXPRESSIONS ..... Jurisdictional Bishops
RESOLUTION ..... Supt. E.J. O'Neal
CARDS, TELEGRAMS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ..... Sister Verde Tolfree
OBITUARY ..... Silently Read
SOLO ..... *"Family Request"* ..... Missionary Ruth Langston
EULOGY ..... Bishop W. W. Hamilton
Juristictional Bishop
California Northwest
PARTING VIEW ..... Saints Christian Funeral Staff and State Ushers
RECESSIONAL .....

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PALLBEARERS

HONORARY

NORTH WEST PASTORS
& ASSOCIATED MINISTERS

ACTIVE

BRO. LEWIS HAWKINS
BRO. ERNIE JACKSON
MIN. BEN BLACKMON
MR. LAMBERT VALERY
MR. WAYNE VALERY
MIN. DWAYNE HENRY
MIN. BENNY VALERY

OBITUARY OF
ELDER ERIC RICARDO LYONS

A giant is dead! We are privileged in our life time to be exposed to the wisdom and spiritual vitality of a chosen few young men who are especially selected by God for the building of his kingdom.

Eric Ricardo, fondly known as Eric, was born to the proud parents of Robert and Cleethel Lyons on January 14, 1947 in St. Louis, Mo. He was the third of six gifted children.

The family moved to Oakland, California while Eric was a very, very young lad. He received his formal education as he grew up in this area and graduated from Encinal High School, Alameda, California. Following his graduation from High School, he received degrees in Fashion Arts, Cosmetology and Medical Records Technocracy. He was associated with the Saints Christian Funeral Chapel where he served as Assistant Director and Chapel Minister.

He started his church work at Good Samaritan Church of God In Christ, under the pastorage of the late Bishop Issac Finley. He served as lead singer for the Youth Department and Sunshine Band under Sister Thelma Madison. He worked under Brother D. L. Sneed and Sister T. Hudspeth as lead singer, youth and Inspirational Choir director and as he gain experience, he assisted in directing the Combined Choir of said church. His gift was making room for him and he enjoyed this opportunity.

In 1966, he was inducted into the United States Army, Newark, N.J., and received an honorable discharge in 1969.

On June 14, 1969, he married Marva Valery and to this union, six children were born. After much travel around California State and other parts of the world, he became more knowledgable of the meaning of gospel singing as he was exposed to it from time to time. The Lord called him to the ministry of preaching in 1967 and at this point he was singing and preaching the gospel as he travelled extensively.

He formerly served as Minister of North Central State and Music Director of North West State. A noted preacher and gospel singer, he was a revivalist that conducted revivals around various parts of the world. He served as Assistant Supt., of the Penticostal Fellowship District. He has served as Choir Director for Youth Congress of the Churches of God in Christ, local, State and National.

In later years, the health of Bishop I. Finley became impaired and he was appointed as Assistant Pastor to Bishop Finley. He served well and was loyal, and later he moved to become the Assistant Pastor of the East Oakland C.O.G.I.C., pastored by Bishop M. J. Clifton and assisted well there.

In December 1980 he organized the Refreshing Fountain C.O.G.I.C., and worked with all of his strength and spiritual love. The church was, at first, comprised of his immediate family.

Fortunately, during his extensive travel — singing and preacing, the gift of music was bestowed upon him and he was able to serve as his own church organist and served in many, many capacities at his church until the Lord sent laborers into the new field. He started with seven and the church membership grew to six-five.

The Lord blessed this work and with the leadership of Elder Lyons, they have enjoyed many feasts. The church was able to Broadcast over KEST Radio Station for two years — called the "Moments of Refreshing." The Lord greatly blessed this Broadcast, and many people were blessed and added to the church.

The Refreshing Fountain Church was a dream of Elder Lyons, and he loved his choir which is comprised, mostly of his family and directed by his brother Elder Bobby Lyons and Niece, Alfreda Lyons - Campbell.

In 1985, his health became impaired, yet he continued with his many, many church activities, local, state and national. He travel in many areas even during his illness.

In July, 1987, his health grew worse. His pace was slower. He was admitted to a local hospital at various intervals, but he kept the faith. When asked of him, how he is feeling from time to time, he would reply, 'I'm living to die."

On December 10, he expired in a local hospital in San Leandro, California.

He leaves to celebrate his home-going a devoted and lovable wife, Marva V. Lyons. Six children: two sons, Eric, Jr., and Derrick, four daughters, Donita, Vernita, Anita, and Juanita. A father and step-mother, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lyons, Senior, of Oakland, California. Four brothers, Robert (Bobby), Maurice, Dennis and Kevin, of Oakland, California, two sisters, Ruth A. Lyons of Alameda, California, Sheryl Butler of Richmond, California. Nine aunts: Mary Brystol, of Detroit, Michigan, Lillie Boyd and Esther Webb, of Kinloch, Mo., Lessie M. Oliver, of St. Louis, Mo., Geneva Dalton, of St. Louis, Mo., Naoma Green and Esther Richardson, Ruth Woods, of Oakland, California, and Gladys Holness, of Hercules, California. One uncle, Curtiss Purnell, of Grand Rapids, Mich., a devoted grandmother, Lona McGinnis, of Hercules, California. A host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and other distant relatives and friends, and The Refreshing Fountain Church family.

Good night for now Eric, we'll see you in the morning.

Dedicated to the Bereaved Family

What Joy that Awaits Me

Walking with Jesus is such a pleasure
Praising His name is such a thrill
Trusting in His precious promises
Trusting and striving to do his will

Let me daily feel thy presence
Safely guide me every day
When the enemy tries to hinder
Your tender voice I will obey

When the journey here is finished
When life here on earth is o'er
Oh! What joy awaits me in glory
I'll dwell with Jesus for evermore

There I will know no pain nor sorrow
I will be in my home prepared for me
Where the saints will all be joining
Singing and shouting the victory

Composed by: Dr. Flora J. Taylor Evans
(1975)

In Appreciation

We wish to express to you, our many friends,
our gratitude for your kindness evidence in thought and in deed,
and for your attendance at the funeral service.
The Family

Arrangements By

Saints Christian Funeral Chapel

"WE SERVE TO PLEASE EVERYONE"
"LOW COST, SINCERE AND EFFICIENT SERVICE"

936 W. MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, California
Phone: 653-6384

DR. FLORA J. TAYLOR EVANS
Owner/Director

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